

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the second paragraph on page 2 of the application as follows:

Instead of sending a separate stream of data packets A-D for each individual receiver host 3a, 3b, the content provider 2 provides a single data stream 5. The data stream is replicated by a multicast-enabled edge router 6 wherever the paths to the different receiver hosts 3a, 3b diverge. ~~For example, in Figure 1, the path from the content provider 2 to receiver hosts 3a, 3b is common to both hosts.~~ The router 6 copies the incoming data packets A-E, producing duplicate data streams 8a, 8b for transmission to the receiver hosts 3a, 3b. As the content provider 2 transmits only a single data stream 5, the use of its system resources and the network load are reduced when compared with a unicast system. Furthermore, as the transmission of replicated data is kept to a minimum, multicasting may be used in wide area networks where broadcasting is unfeasible.

Please amend the first Detailed Description paragraph on page 6 of the application as follows:

Figure 2 depicts an embodiment of a communication system 9 for multicast file delivery via the Internet 4 comprising a multimedia content provider 2, receiver hosts 3a-3c, a router 6, a radio transmitter 7 and a cache 10. The data path 5 may include further elements, such as other transmitters or routers, which may be located between the content provider 2 and router 6. The ~~portion of the data paths~~ leading from the content provider 2 to the receiver hosts 3a-3c have ~~coinciding~~ a common portion[[s]] 5 extending between the content provider 2 and the router 6 and diverge between the router 6 and the individual receiver hosts 3a-3c.